

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
SAA-01 SES-02 SY-05 MCT-02 A-01 OPR-02 OC-06
CCO-00 EB-08 DOE-15 SOE-02 COME-00 ACDA-12 SCS-06
CA-01 NEAE-00 PC-01 HA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /159 W
-----080977 111842Z /45

P R 111329Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 276
DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
CINPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 8670

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PORS, IR
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SUBJ: MARTIAL LAW REPORT

REF: TEHRAN 8616

SUMMARY: OFFICIAL DEATH TOLL FROM SEPT 8 SHOOTING HAS REACHED
95, BUT TEHRAN REMAINED RELATIVELY QUIET SEPT. 10 TO MIDDAY
SEPT. 11. DAY OF MOURNING THREE DAYS AFTER SEPT 8 DEATHS DID

NOT, CONTRARY TO SOME EXPECTATIONS, PRODUCE CROWDS GATHERING IN
DEFIANCE OF MARTIAL LAW. OCCASIONAL SOUND OF GUNFIRE
CAN GENERALLY BE ATTRIBUTED TO MILITARY POLICY OF FIRING
IN THE AIR FOR EFFECT. PERSONAL INSPECTION BY CONSULATE
ISFAHAN DOES NOT CONFIRM PREVIOUS REPORTS OF PROPERTY
DAMAGE MORNING SEPT. 10. WIDESPREAD ARRESTS FOR CORRUP-
TION OR SECURITY OFFENSES TOOK PLACE SEPT. 11. END SUMMARY.

1. OFFICIAL DEATH TOLL FROM SEPT. 8 STREET BATTLE HAS
REACHED 95, BUT TEHRAN REMAINED RELATIVELY QUIET SEPT.
10 THROUGH MIDDAY SEPT 11. THERE ARE NO NEW REPORTS OF
DEATHS, INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE. ALTHOUGH SEPT. 11 IS
A TRADITIONAL DAY OF MOURNING (THREE DAYS AFTER DEATHS
SEPT. 8 IN JALEH SQUARE) CROWDS HAVE NOT ASSEMBLED IN
DEFIANCE OF MARTIAL LAW. GUNFIRE WAS HEARD THROUGHOUT
NIGHT SEPT. 10-11, ESPECIALLY IN SOUTH TEHRAN, BUT THIS
PROBABLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO SECURITY FORCES POLICY OF FIRING
INTO THE AIR TO HALT OR DETER VIOLATORS. RUMORS OF REAL
OR IMPENDING DISASTER ARE NONETHELESS FLOURISHING; THE
GERMAN COMMUNITY IS PARTICULARLY ON EDGE.

2. CONSULATE ISFAHAN INSPECTED SITES OF RUMORED PROPERTY
DAMAGE REPORTED REFTEL, BUT SAW NO EVIDENCE OF DESTRUCTION.
ISFAHAN DID EXPERIENCE DEMONSTRATIONS MORNING SEPT. 10,
BUT THESE WERE DISPERSED BY MARTIAL LAW TROOPS. BAZAAR
HAS DEFIED MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATION BY CLOSING SHOPS.
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EIGHTY PERCENT WERE CLOSED SEPT. 10. AFTER MILITARY
GOVERNOR ISFAHAN WARNED SHOPKEEPERS THEY MUST KEEP BUSINESSES
OPEN, MOST CLOSED SEPT. 11.

3. CONSULATE SHIRAZ REPORTS QUIET CONDITIONS AFTER SOME TUR-
MOIL FIRST DAY OF MARTIAL LAW. SHOPS ARE CLOSED THERE
ALSO.

4. WIDESPREAD ARRESTS FOR EITHER SECURITY OR CORRUPTION OFFENSES
TOOK PLACE SEPT. 11 AND MORE ARE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW.
MARTIAL LAW FORCES IN SHIRAZ ARRESTED TWO CLERGYMEN--
MULLAH MESHUHEE AND MULLAH TAHERI. SECURITY FORCES IN
ISFAHAN ARRESTED SIX MEN ALLEGED TO BE CONSPIRATORS BEHIND
THE VIOLENCE THERE. ATTORNEY AHMAD GHASARI, EX-NATIONAL
FRONTER WHO WAS EXPECTED TO BECOME INF PARTY LEADER IN
ISFAHAN, IS UNDER ARREST AS RINGLEADER. OTHERS ARE
FAGHIH IMANI, HOJATOLLAH TAHERI (NOT THE TAHERI WHOSE
ARREST SPARKED RIOTING AND LED TO MARTIAL LAW IN ISFAHAN),
HOJATOLLAH NIRDAMADI, DR. SAED HOSSEIN VAEZI (A
PHARMACIST WHO ALLEGEDLY MADE FIREBOMBS), AND FOULADGAR
(FIRST NAME UNKNOWN). IN TEHRAN, EIGHT PROMINENT MEN
ARE JAILED UNDER ARTICLE 5 OF MARTIAL LAW ACT (OPPOSING

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNEMENT AND LAW AND ORDER). NO

SPECIFIC CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED, ALTHOUGH IT APPEARS THE CHARGE WILL BE CORRUPTION. DR. SHOJAEDIN SHEIKHOLES-LAMZADEH, FORMER MINISTER OF HEALTH, HEADS THE LIST. OTHERS ARE HIS TWO FORMER UNDERSECRETARIES, ASSADOLLAH NILI-ARAM AND MOHAMMAD REZA NEGHBAT; FORMER HEAD OF THE GUILDS CHAMBER RASOUL RAHIMI; ALI-ASGHAR RAZAZIAN, IRAN'S BIGGEST FRUIT IMPORTER; MOHAMMAD ALI NAGHIB-ZADEH, FORMER MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE EDUCATORS COOPERATIVE; BAGHER AMELI, FORMER MANAGING DIRECTOR OF RURAL AND TOWN COOPERATIVE; AND SAREBANHA (FNU), OWNER OF MAJOR TRUCKING FIRM.

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5. GOI ANNOUNCED SEPT. 11 THAT HIGH MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEHRAN, HAVE BEEN REPLACED. GOVERNMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED, WITHOUT GIVEING ANY DETAILS, A MAJOR REORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL IRANIAN OIL COMPANY.
SULLIVAN

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